

## General Assembly

## Substitute Bill No. 948

January Session, 2009

*	SB00948BA	031109	×

## AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE S.A.F.E MORTGAGE LICENSING ACT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Section 36a-21 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 3 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of state law and except as
- 4 provided in [subsection] subsections (b) and (d) of this section and
- subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 36a-534b, as amended by
- 6 <u>this act</u>, the following records of the Department of Banking shall not
- 7 be disclosed by the commissioner or any employee of the Department
- 8 of Banking, or be subject to public inspection or discovery:
- 9 (1) Examination and investigation reports and information
- 10 contained in or derived from such reports, including examination
- 11 reports prepared by the commissioner or prepared on behalf of or for
- the use of the commissioner;
- 13 (2) Confidential supervisory or investigative information obtained
- 14 from a state, federal or foreign regulatory or law enforcement agency;
- 15 and
- 16 (3) Information obtained, collected or prepared in connection with
- 17 examinations, inspections or investigations, and complaints from the

public received by the Department of Banking, if such records are protected from disclosure under federal or state law or, in the opinion of the commissioner, such records would disclose, or would reasonably lead to the disclosure of: (A) Investigative information the disclosure of which would be prejudicial to such investigation, until such time as the investigation and all related administrative and legal actions are concluded; (B) personal or financial information, including account or loan information, without the written consent of the person or persons to whom the information pertains; or (C) information that would harm the reputation of any person or affect the safety and soundness of any person whose activities in this state are subject to the supervision of the commissioner, and the disclosure of such information under this subparagraph would not be in the public interest.

- (b) The commissioner may, without waiving any privilege, disclose the records described in subsection (a) of this section for any appropriate supervisory, governmental, law enforcement or other public purpose. Any such disclosure shall be made under safeguards designed to prevent further dissemination of such records. In any proceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of any such record and order that any such record on file with the court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed and that the public be excluded from any portion of the proceeding at which any such record is disclosed.
- (c) No director, officer, employee or agent of any Connecticut bank or Connecticut credit union shall disclose without the prior written consent of the commissioner any information contained in an examination report about such bank or credit union, which information is not otherwise a matter of public record.
- (d) (1) The provisions of <u>subsections</u> (a) and (b) of this section shall not apply to the disclosure of [(1)] any record [that is] <u>provided to or</u> maintained by the commissioner with the [Nationwide Mortgage

51 Licensing System to any supervisory, governmental or law 52 enforcement agency that is authorized to access such record on the 53 system, provided such record shall remain the property of the 54 Department of Banking and may not be further disclosed to any 55 person without the consent of the commissioner, or (2) any record of a 56 licensee that is maintained by the commissioner with such system to 57 such licensee. No person may obtain information from the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System that could not otherwise be obtained 58 59 under state law. No information obtained from the Nationwide 60 Mortgage Licensing System shall be admissible as evidence in, or used 61 to initiate, a civil proceeding in this state unless such information 62 would otherwise be admissible in such proceeding under state law.] 63 system. Except as otherwise provided in Section 1512 of the federal S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008, any requirements under 64 65 federal law or any law of this state, including this section and chapter 14 and any privilege arising under federal law or any law of this state, 66 including the rules of any federal court or court of this state that 67 68 protect the disclosure of any record provided to or maintained with 69 the system, shall continue to apply to such record after it has been 70 disclosed to the system. Such record may be shared with all state and 71 federal regulatory officials that have oversight authority over the 72 mortgage industry without the loss of privilege or the loss of 73 confidentiality protections provided by federal law or the laws of this 74 state. For purposes of this subsection, the commissioner may enter into 75 agreements or sharing arrangements with other governmental 76 agencies, the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, the American 77 Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators or associations 78 representing governmental agencies.

(2) Any information or material that is protected from disclosure under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not be subject to (A) disclosure under any federal or state law governing disclosure to the public of information held by an officer or agency of the federal government or the respective state; or (B) subpoena, discovery or admission into evidence in any private civil action or administrative

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- 85 process, except a person may, at such person's discretion, waive in
- 86 whole or in part a privilege held by the system concerning such
- 87 <u>information and material.</u>
- 88 (3) Any law of this state relating to the disclosure of confidential 89 supervisory information or of any information or material described in 90 subdivision (1) of this subsection that is inconsistent with subdivision
- 91 (1) shall be superseded by the requirements of this subsection.
- 92 (e) The confidentiality provisions of this section shall not apply to
- 93 records relating to the employment history of, and publicly
- 94 adjudicated disciplinary and enforcement actions against, mortgage
- 95 loan originators that are included in the system for access by the
- 96 public.
- 97 (f) For purposes of this section, "system" has the same meaning as
- 98 provided in section 36a-485, as amended by this act.
- 99 Sec. 2. Section 36a-485 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- As used in this section and sections 36a-486 to 36a-498a, inclusive, <u>as</u>
- amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b, unless the
- 103 context otherwise requires:
- 104 (1) "Advance fee" means any consideration paid or given, directly or
- indirectly, to a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or
- mortgage broker required to be licensed pursuant to sections 36a-485
- to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a
- and 36a-534b, prior to the closing of a <u>residential</u> mortgage loan to any
- person, including, but not limited to, loan fees, points, broker's fees or
- 110 commissions, transaction fees or similar prepaid finance charges;
- 111 (2) "Advertise", [or] "advertisement" or "advertising" means the use
- of any announcement, statement, assertion or representation that is
- 113 placed before the public in a newspaper, magazine or other
- 114 publication, or in the form of a notice, circular, pamphlet, letter or

- poster or over any radio or television station, by means of the Internet, or by other electronic means of distributing information, by personal contact, or in any other way;
- 118 (3) "Branch office" means a location other than the main office at 119 which a licensee or any person on behalf of a licensee acts as a 120 mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker;
- 121 (4) "Control person" means an individual that directly or indirectly 122 exercises control over another person. Any person that (A) is a 123 director, general partner or executive officer; (B) directly or indirectly 124 has the right to vote ten per cent or more of a class of any voting security or has the power to sell or direct the sale of ten per cent or 125 126 more of the capital, is presumed to be a control person. For purposes of 127 this subdivision, "control" means the power, directly or indirectly, to 128 direct the management or policies of a company, whether through 129 ownership of securities, by contract or otherwise;
  - (5) "Depository institution" has the same meaning as provided in Section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, 12 USC 1813, and includes any Connecticut credit union, federal credit union or out-of-state credit union;
  - (6) "Federal banking agency" means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, the National Credit Union Administration and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;
  - [(4)] (7) "First mortgage loan" means a [loan or an extension of credit, including, but not limited to, an extension of credit pursuant to a contract or an assigned contract for the sale of goods or services, made to a natural person, the proceeds of which are to be used primarily for personal, family or household purposes, and which] residential mortgage loan that is secured by a first mortgage; [upon any interest in one-to-four-family owner-occupied residential property located in this state which is not subject to any prior mortgages and includes the renewal or refinancing of an existing first mortgage loan;]

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- 147 <u>(8) "Immediate family member" means a spouse, child, sibling,</u> 148 <u>parent, grandparent or grandchild and includes stepparents,</u> 149 <u>stepchildren, stepsiblings and adoptive relationships;</u>
  - (9) "Individual" means a natural person;

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- (10) "Loan processor" or "underwriter" means an individual who 151 152 performs clerical or support duties as an employee at the direction of 153 and subject to the supervision and instruction of a person licensed or 154 exempt from licensing under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as 155 amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b, as amended by this act. The term "clerical or support duties" includes, subsequent 156 157 to the receipt of an application, (A) the receipt, collection, distribution 158 and analysis of information common for the processing or 159 underwriting of a residential mortgage loan, and (B) communication 160 with a consumer to obtain the information necessary for the processing or underwriting of a loan to the extent that such communication does 161 162 not include offering or negotiating loan rates or terms or counseling 163 consumers about residential mortgage loan rates or terms;
- [(5)] (11) "Main office" means the main address designated on the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system;
  - [(6)] (12) "Mortgage broker" means a person who, [for a fee, commission or other valuable consideration, directly or indirectly, negotiates, solicits, arranges, places or finds a mortgage loan that is to be made by a mortgage lender or mortgage correspondent lender, whether or not the mortgage lender or mortgage correspondent lender are required to be licensed under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive] for compensation or gain or in the expectation of compensation or gain (A) takes a residential mortgage loan application, or (B) offers or negotiates terms of a residential mortgage loan, excluding an individual who is sponsored by another mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker;
    - [(7)] (13) "Mortgage correspondent lender" means a person engaged in the business of making <u>residential</u> mortgage loans in such person's

179 own name where the loans are not held by such person for more than 180 ninety days and are funded by another person through a warehouse agreement, table funding agreement or similar agreement;

[(8)] (14) "Mortgage lender" means a person engaged in the business of making residential mortgage loans in such person's own name utilizing such person's own funds or by funding loans through a warehouse agreement, table funding agreement or similar agreement;

[(9) "Mortgage loan" means a first mortgage loan or secondary mortgage loan;

[(10)] (15) "Mortgage loan originator" means an individual who [is employed or retained by, or otherwise acts on behalf of, a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker licensee who, for, or with the expectation of, a fee, commission or other valuable consideration, takes an application for or negotiates, solicits, arranges or finds a mortgage loan. "Mortgage loan originator" does not include (1) an officer, if the licensee is a corporation; a general partner, if the licensee is a partnership; a member, if the licensee is a limited liability company; or a sole proprietor, if the licensee is a sole proprietorship, or (2) an individual whose responsibilities are limited to clerical and administrative tasks and who does not solicit borrowers, arrange or find mortgage loans, take applications or negotiate the terms of loans] takes a residential mortgage loan application or offers or negotiates terms of a residential mortgage loan for compensation or gain. "Mortgage loan originator" does not include (A) any person who does not otherwise come within the definition of mortgage loan originator and who performs purely administrative or clerical tasks on behalf of a mortgage loan originator; (B) a person who only performs real estate brokerage activities and is licensed in accordance with chapter 392, unless the individual is compensated by a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or other mortgage loan originator or by any agent of such mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or other mortgage loan originator; or (C) a person solely involved in extensions of credit

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- 212 relating to timeshare plans, as that term is defined in Paragraph 53D of
- 213 <u>11 USC 101</u>. For purposes of this subdivision, "administrative or
- 214 <u>clerical tasks" means the receipt, collection and distribution of</u>
- 215 <u>information common for the processing or underwriting of a loan in</u>
- 216 the mortgage industry and communication with a consumer to obtain
- 217 <u>information necessary for the processing or underwriting of a</u>
- 218 <u>residential mortgage loan;</u>
- [(11)] (16) "Office" means a branch office or a main office;
- 220 (17) "Person" means a natural person, corporation, company, limited
- 221 <u>liability company</u>, partnership or association;
- [(12)] (18) "Principal amount of the loan" means the gross amount
- 223 the borrower is obligated to repay including any prepaid finance
- 224 charge that is financed, and any other charge that is financed;
- 225 (19) "Real estate brokerage activity" means any activity that involves
- 226 offering or providing real estate brokerage services to the public,
- 227 <u>including (A) acting as a real estate agent or real estate broker for a</u>
- buyer, seller, lessor or lessee of real property; (B) bringing together
- 229 parties interested in the sale, purchase, lease, rental or exchange or real
- 230 property; (C) negotiating, on behalf of any party, any portion of a
- 231 <u>contract relating to the sale, purchase, lease, rental or exchange of real</u>
- 232 property, other than in connection with providing financing with
- 233 respect to any such transaction; (D) engaging in any activity for which
- 234 <u>a person engaged in the activity is required to be licensed as a real</u>
- 235 estate agent or real estate broker under any applicable law; and (E)
- 236 offering to engage in any activity, or act in any capacity, described in
- 237 this subdivision;
- 238 (20) "Registered mortgage loan originator" means any individual
- 239 who (A) meets the definition of mortgage loan originator and is an
- 240 employee of a depository institution, a subsidiary that is owned and
- 241 controlled by a depository institution and regulated by a federal
- 242 banking agency, or an institution regulated by the Farm Credit
- 243 Administration; and (B) is registered with and maintains a unique

- identifier through the system;
- 245 (21) "Residential mortgage loan" means any loan primarily for
- 246 personal, family or household use that is secured by a mortgage, deed
- 247 of trust or other equivalent consensual security interest on a dwelling
- 248 as defined in Section 103 of the Consumer Credit Protection Act, 15
- 249 USC 1602, or residential real estate located in this state upon which is
- constructed or intended to be constructed a dwelling, as so defined;
- [(13) "Residential property" means improved real property used or
- occupied, or intended to be used or occupied, for residential purposes;]
- 253 (22) "Residential real estate" means any real property located in this
- 254 state, upon which is constructed or intended to be constructed a
- 255 <u>dwelling as defined in Section 103 of the Consumer Credit Protection</u>
- 256 Act, 15 USC 1602;
- 257 [(14)] (23) "Secondary mortgage loan" means [(A) a loan or an
- 258 extension of credit, including, but not limited to, an extension of credit
- 259 pursuant to a contract or an assigned contract for the sale of goods or
- services, made to a natural person, the proceeds of which are to be
- 261 used primarily for personal, family or household purposes, and] a
- 262 residential mortgage loan that is secured, in whole or in part, by a
- 263 mortgage, [upon any interest in one-to-four-family owner-occupied
- residential property located in this state,] provided such property is
- subject to one or more prior mortgages; [, and (B) the renewal or
- 266 refinancing of any existing loan or extension of credit described in
- 267 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision;
- 268 [(15)] (24) "Simulated check" means a document that imitates or
- resembles a check but is not a negotiable instrument;
- 270 (25) "Sponsored" means employed or retained as an independent
- 271 contractor;
- 272 (26) "System" means the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System
- and Registry developed and maintained by the Conference of State

- 274 Bank Supervisors and the American Association of Residential
- 275 Mortgage Regulators for the licensing and registration of mortgage
- 276 lenders, mortgage correspondent lenders, mortgage brokers and
- 277 mortgage loan originators;
- [(16)] (27) "Table funding agreement" means an agreement wherein
- a person agrees to fund mortgage loans to be made in another person's
- 280 name and to purchase such loans after they are made; [and]
- 281 (28) "Unique identifier" means a number or other identifier assigned
- 282 by protocols established by the system; and
- [(17)] (29) "Warehouse agreement" means an agreement to provide
- 284 credit to a person to enable the person to have funds to make
- 285 <u>residential</u> mortgage loans and hold such loans pending sale to other
- 286 persons.
- Sec. 3. Section 36a-534b of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) [The Banking Commissioner] (1) In addition to any other duties
- 290 <u>imposed upon the Banking Commissioner by law, the commissioner</u>
- 291 <u>shall require mortgage lenders, mortgage correspondent lenders,</u>
- 292 <u>mortgage brokers and mortgage loan originators to be licensed and</u>
- 293 <u>registered through the system. In order to carry out this requirement,</u>
- 294 <u>the commissioner</u> shall participate in the [Nationwide Mortgage
- 295 Licensing System] system [for this state] and permit [such system] the
- 296 system to process applications for mortgage lender, mortgage
- 297 correspondent lender, mortgage broker and mortgage loan originator
- 298 licenses in this state and receive and maintain records related to such
- 299 licenses that are allowed or required to be maintained by the
- 300 commissioner. For this purpose, the commissioner may establish, by
- 301 order or regulation, the requirements and procedures necessary for
- 302 participation in the system, including, but not limited to: (A) Applicant
- 303 background checks for criminal history through (i) fingerprint or other
- databases, (ii) civil or administrative records, or (iii) credit history or
- any other information as deemed necessary by the system; (B) fees to

- 306 apply for or renew licenses through the system; (C) license renewal or 307 reporting dates; and (D) the process for amending or surrendering a 308 license or any other such activities as the commissioner deems 309 necessary for participation in the system. For the purpose of 310 participating in the system, the commissioner may waive or modify, in 311 whole or in part, by regulation or order, any requirement of sections 312 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and to establish 313 new requirements as reasonably necessary to participate in the system.
- 314 (2) The commissioner shall report regularly to the system violations 315 of and enforcement actions under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, 316 inclusive, as amended by this act, sections 19 and 20 of this act and 317 other relevant information.
- 318 (3) The commissioner may establish relationships or enter into contracts with the system or other entities designated by the system to collect and maintain records and process transaction fees or other fees related to licensees or other persons subject to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act.
- 323 (4) For the purposes of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as
  324 amended by this act, and to reduce the points of contact that the
  325 Federal Bureau of Investigation may have to maintain under the
  326 federal S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act, the commissioner may use
  327 the system as a channeling agent for requesting information from and
  328 distributing information to the United States Department of Justice or
  329 any governmental agency.
  - (5) For the purposes of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and to reduce the points of contact that the commissioner may have to maintain, the commissioner may use the system as a channeling agent for requesting and distributing information to and from any source, as directed by the commissioner.
  - (6) The commissioner shall establish a process whereby mortgage lenders, mortgage correspondent lenders, mortgage brokers and mortgage loan originators may challenge information entered into the

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## 338 system by the commissioner.

- 339 (b) (1) Each first mortgage lender license and secondary mortgage 340 lender license in existence on June 30, 2008, shall be deemed on and 341 after July 1, 2008, to be a mortgage lender license, as defined in section 342 36a-485, as amended by this act; (2) each first mortgage correspondent 343 lender license and secondary mortgage correspondent lender license in 344 existence on June 30, 2008, shall be deemed on and after July 1, 2008, to 345 be a mortgage correspondent lender license, as defined in section 36a-346 485, as amended by this act; (3) each first mortgage broker license and 347 secondary mortgage broker license in existence on June 30, 2008, shall 348 be deemed on and after July 1, 2008, to be a mortgage broker license, as defined in section 36a-485, as amended by this act; and (4) each 349 350 originator registration in existence on June 30, 2008, shall be deemed 351 on and after July 1, 2008, to be a mortgage loan originator license, as 352 defined in section 36a-485, as amended by this act.
  - (c) (1) Each person licensed on July 1, 2008, as a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator shall, prior to October 1, 2008, transition on to the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system by submitting all licensing and license-related information required by the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system for this state.
  - (2) On and after July 1, 2008, any licensing or license-related filings shall be submitted exclusively through the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] <a href="mailto:system">system</a>.
  - (3) Any person making any filing or submission of any information on the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system shall do so in accordance with the procedures and requirements of [such system] the system and pay the applicable fees or charges to [such system] the system. Each mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker and mortgage loan originator licensee shall submit to the system reports of condition that shall be in such form and shall contain such information as the system may require.

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- 370 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any initial
- application for a license submitted on the [Nationwide Mortgage
- 372 Licensing System] system between October 1, 2008, and December 31,
- 373 2008, shall not be approved by the commissioner prior to January 1,
- 374 2009.
- (e) For purposes of this section, "system" has the same meaning as
- 376 provided in section 36a-485, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 4. Section 36a-498c of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 379 At least once a year, each mortgage lender and mortgage
- 380 correspondent lender, both as defined in section 36a-485, as amended
- 381 by this act, and licensed under section 36a-489, as amended by this act,
- shall adopt a mortgage loan policy with respect to subprime mortgage
- 383 loans and nontraditional mortgage loans made by such mortgage
- lender or such mortgage correspondent lender based on and consistent
- 385 with the most current version of the Conference of State Bank
- 386 Supervisors, American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators
- 387 and National Association of Consumer Credit Administrators
- 388 Statement on Subprime Mortgage Lending, and the Conference of
- 389 State Bank Supervisors and American Association of Residential
- 390 Mortgage Regulators Guidance on Nontraditional Mortgage Product
- Risks. Such licensees shall comply with such policy and develop and
- 392 implement internal controls that are reasonably designed to ensure
- 393 such compliance. The mortgage loan policy and any residential
- mortgage loan, as defined in section 36a-485, as amended by this act,
- 395 made pursuant to the policy shall be subject to examination concerning
- 396 prudent lending practices by the [Banking Commissioner]
- 397 commissioner.
- Sec. 5. Section 36a-486 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 399 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 400 (a) No person shall engage in the business of making <u>residential</u>
- 401 mortgage loans or act as a mortgage broker in this state unless such

person has first obtained the required license for its main office and each branch office where such business is conducted in accordance with the provisions of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b. Effective April 1, 2010, any such person who is an individual shall also obtain a mortgage loan originator license prior to conducting such business unless such individual does not engage directly in the activities of a mortgage loan originator. A person, other than a licensed mortgage loan originator acting on behalf of [the] a mortgage lender [,] or mortgage correspondent lender, [or mortgage broker, that employs or retains such mortgage loan originator,] shall be deemed to be engaged in the business of making residential mortgage loans if such person advertises, causes to be advertised, solicits [,] or offers to make [or makes] residential mortgage loans, either directly or indirectly. A person, other than a licensed mortgage loan originator acting on behalf of a mortgage broker, shall be deemed to be acting as a mortgage broker if such person advertises or causes to be advertised that such person will negotiate, solicit, place or find a residential mortgage loan, either directly or indirectly. A mortgage correspondent lender shall not be deemed to be acting as a mortgage lender if such mortgage correspondent lender makes a loan utilizing its own funds in a situation where another person does not honor such person's commitment to fund the loan.

(b) (1) No person licensed as a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker shall [employ or retain] engage the services of a mortgage loan originator unless such mortgage loan originator is licensed under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, or section 36a-534b. An individual, unless specifically exempted under subdivision (2) of this subsection, shall not engage in the business of a mortgage loan originator with respect to any dwelling, as defined in Section 103 of the Consumer Credit Protection Act, 15 USC 1602, located in this state without first obtaining and maintaining annually a license as a mortgage loan originator under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive,

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as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b, as amended by this act. Each licensed mortgage loan originator shall register with and maintain a valid unique identifier issued by the system. No individual may act as a mortgage loan originator [without being licensed, or act as a mortgage loan originator] for more than one [person] sponsor at the same time. The license of a mortgage loan originator is not effective during any period when such mortgage loan originator is not [associated with] sponsored by a licensed mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker. Either the mortgage loan originator or the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker may file a notification of the termination of [employment] sponsorship of a mortgage loan originator with the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system.

(2) The following are exempt from this section: (A) A registered mortgage loan originator, when acting for an institution or subsidiary described in subdivision (20) of section 36a-485, as amended by this act, (B) an individual who offers or negotiates the terms of a residential mortgage loan with or on behalf of an immediate family member of such individual, (C) an individual who offers or negotiates the terms of a residential mortgage loan secured by a dwelling, as defined in Section 103 of the Consumer Credit Protection Act, 15 USC 1602, that served as the individual's residence, and (D) a licensed attorney who negotiates the terms of a residential mortgage loan on behalf of a client as an ancillary matter to the attorney's representation of the client, unless the attorney is compensated by a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or other mortgage loan originator or by any agent of such mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or other mortgage loan originator.

(3) Effective July 31, 2010, a loan processor or underwriter who is an independent contractor may not engage in the activities of a loan processor or underwriter unless such independent contractor loan processor or underwriter obtains and maintains a license as a mortgage loan originator under section 36a-489, as amended by this

- 470 act. Each independent contractor loan processor or underwriter
- 471 <u>licensed as a mortgage loan originator shall have and maintain a valid</u>
- 472 <u>unique identifier issued by the system.</u>
- 473 (4) An individual engaging solely in loan processor or underwriter
- 474 <u>activities shall not represent to the public, through advertising or other</u>
- 475 means of communicating or providing information, including the use
- 476 of business cards, stationery, brochures, signs, rate lists or other
- 477 promotional items, that such individual can or will perform any of the
- 478 activities of a mortgage loan originator.
- 479 (c) Each <u>residential</u> mortgage loan negotiated, solicited, arranged,
- 480 placed, found or made without a license shall constitute a separate
- 481 violation for purposes of section 36a-50.
- Sec. 6. Section 36a-487 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 484 (a) The following are exempt from licensing under sections 36a-485
- 485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and section 36a-534b, as
- 486 amended by this act:
- 487 [(1)] Any bank, out-of-state bank, Connecticut credit union, federal
- 488 credit union [,] or out-of-state credit union, [provided subsidiaries of
- such institutions other than provided such bank or credit union is
- 490 federally insured, any operating [subsidiaries] subsidiary of a federal
- 491 [banks and] bank or federally-chartered out-of-state [banks are not
- 492 exempt from licensure;] bank or any wholly-owned subsidiary of a
- 493 Connecticut bank or a Connecticut credit union. Each wholly-owned
- 494 subsidiary of a Connecticut bank or Connecticut credit union that
- 495 engages in the business of making residential mortgage loans or acts as
- 496 a mortgage broker in this state shall provide written notification to the
- 497 commissioner prior to engaging in such activity.
- (b) The following are exempt from licensing as a mortgage lender or
- 499 mortgage correspondent lender under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a,
- inclusive, as amended by this act, and section 36a-534b, as amended by

- 501 this act:
- [(2)] (1) Persons making five or fewer <u>residential</u> mortgage loans
- 503 within any period of twelve consecutive months, provided nothing
- 504 herein shall relieve such persons from complying with all applicable
- 505 laws;
- 506 [(3)] (2) Bona fide nonprofit corporations making residential
- 507 mortgage loans to promote home ownership for the economically
- 508 disadvantaged;
- [(4)] (3) Agencies of the federal government, or any state or
- 510 municipal government, or any quasi-governmental agency making
- 511 residential mortgage loans under the specific authority of the laws of
- any state or the United States;
- [(5)] (4) Persons licensed under sections 36a-555 to 36a-573,
- 514 inclusive, as amended by this act, when making residential mortgage
- 515 loans authorized by said sections;
- [(6)] (5) Persons owning real property who take back from the buyer
- of such property a secondary mortgage loan in lieu of any portion of
- 518 the purchase price of the property;
- [(7)] (6) Any corporation or its affiliate [which] that makes
- 520 <u>residential</u> mortgage loans exclusively for the benefit of its employees
- 521 or agents;
- [(8)] (7) Any corporation, licensed in accordance with section 38a-41,
- or its affiliate or subsidiary, [which] that makes residential mortgage
- loans to promote home ownership in urban areas;
- [(9)] (8) Persons acting as fiduciaries with respect to any employee
- 526 pension benefit plan qualified under the Internal Revenue Code of
- 527 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the
- 528 United States, as from time to time amended, who make <u>residential</u>
- mortgage loans solely to plan participants from plan assets; and

- [(10)] (9) Persons making secondary mortgage loans to individuals related to the maker by blood or marriage.
  - Sec. 7. Section 36a-488 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (a) (1) The commissioner shall not issue a mortgage lender license, a mortgage correspondent lender license or a mortgage broker license to any person unless such person meets the following tangible net worth and experience requirements, as applicable: (A) The minimum tangible net worth requirement for a mortgage lender shall be two hundred fifty thousand dollars and the minimum tangible net worth requirement for a mortgage correspondent lender and a mortgage broker shall be (i) prior to March 2, 2009, twenty-five thousand dollars, and (ii) on and after March 2, 2009, fifty thousand dollars, and (B) a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker shall have, at the main office for which the license is sought, a qualified individual and, at each branch office, a branch manager with supervisory authority over the lending or brokerage activities [who has] with at least three years' experience in the mortgage business within the five years immediately preceding the date of the application for the license [, and at each branch office, the lender or broker shall have a branch manager with supervisory authority over the lending or brokerage activities who has at least three years' experience in the mortgage business within the five years immediately preceding the application for the license] and who, effective April 1, 2010, has completed the prelicensing education requirement described in section 9 of this act and passed a written test that meets the test requirement described in section 9 of this act. As used in this subdivision, "experience in the mortgage business" means paid experience in the origination, processing or underwriting of residential mortgage loans, the marketing of such loans in the secondary market or in the supervision of such activities, or any other relevant experience as determined by the commissioner.
    - (2) Each licensee shall maintain the net worth required by this

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- subsection. [and shall promptly notify the commissioner if such licensee's net worth falls below the net worth required by this subsection.]
- 566 (3) Not later than April 1, 2010, each qualified individual and 567 branch manager shall have completed the prelicensing education 568 requirement described in section 9 of this act and passed a written test 569 that meets the test requirement described in section 9 of this act.
- 570 (b) The commissioner may issue a mortgage lender license, a 571 mortgage correspondent lender license, or a mortgage broker license. 572 Each mortgage lender licensee may also act as a mortgage 573 correspondent lender and a mortgage broker, and each mortgage 574 correspondent lender licensee may also act as a mortgage broker. On 575 and after July 1, 2008, an application for a license as a mortgage lender, 576 mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker office or renewal 577 of such license shall be filed, in a form prescribed by the commissioner, 578 with the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and the] system. 579 Each such form shall contain content as set forth by instruction or 580 procedure of the commissioner and may be changed or updated as 581 necessary by the commissioner in order to carry out the purpose of this 582 chapter, section 36a-21, as amended by this act, and sections 9 and 19 583 to 22, inclusive, of this act. The applicant shall, at a minimum, furnish 584 to the system information concerning the identity of the applicant, any 585 control person, the qualified individual and any branch manager, 586 including personal history and experience in a form prescribed by the 587 system and information related to any administrative, civil or criminal 588 findings by any governmental jurisdiction. The following 589 supplementary information shall be filed directly with the 590 commissioner: (1) In the case of an initial application for a license for 591 the main office, [or renewal of such license,] a financial statement as of 592 a date not more than twelve months prior to the filing of the 593 application which reflects tangible net worth, and if such financial 594 statement is unaudited, the proprietor, general partner, or duly 595 authorized officer, trustee or member shall swear to its accuracy under 596 oath before a notary public; (2) a bond as required by section 36a-492,

as amended by this act; (3) evidence that the qualified individual or branch manager meets the experience required by subsection (a) of this section; and (4) such other information pertaining to the applicant, the applicant's background, the background of its principals, employees, and mortgage loan originators, and the applicant's activities as the commissioner may require. For the purpose of this subsection, evidence of experience of the qualified individual or branch manager shall include: (A) A statement specifying the duties and responsibilities of such person's employment, the term of employment, including month and year, and the name, address and telephone number of a supervisor, employer or, if self-employed, a business reference; and (B) if required by the commissioner, copies of W-2 forms, 1099 tax forms or, if self-employed, 1120 corporate tax returns, signed letters from the employer on the employer's letterhead verifying such person's duties and responsibilities and term of employment including month and year, and if such person is unable to provide such letters, other proof satisfactory to the commissioner that such person meets the experience requirement. The commissioner may conduct a criminal history records check of the applicant, [of each member, partner, officer or director of the applicant and of the person with supervisory authority at the office for which the license is sought, and require the applicant to submit the fingerprints of such persons as part of the application. The applicant shall submit such fingerprints for processing with the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System, as required] any control person of the applicant and the qualified individual or branch manager with supervisory authority at the office for which the license is sought and require the applicant to submit the fingerprints of such persons and authorization for such persons to obtain an independent credit report from a consumer reporting agency, as described in Section 603(p) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC 1681a, as part of the application.

(c) [On and after July 1, 2008, an] (1) An application to license a person as a mortgage loan originator for a specified office or renewal of such license shall be filed, in a form prescribed by the commissioner,

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- 631 with the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System The applicant shall 632 submit such fingerprints for processing with the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System, as required.] system. Each such form shall contain 633 634 content as set forth by instruction or procedure of the commissioner 635 and may be changed or updated as necessary by the commissioner in 636 order to carry out the purpose of this chapter, section 36a-21, as 637 amended by this act, and sections 9 and 19 to 22, inclusive, of this act. The applicant shall, at a minimum, furnish to the system, in a form 638 prescribed by the system, information concerning the applicant's 639 640 identity, including personal history and experience and information 641 related to any administrative, civil or criminal findings by any governmental jurisdiction. Effective April 1, 2010, each applicant for a 642 643 mortgage loan originator license shall furnish to the system 644 fingerprints for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and 645 any governmental agency or entity authorized to receive such 646 information for a state, national and international criminal history background check. Effective November 1, 2010, each applicant shall 647 648 furnish authorization for the system and the commissioner to obtain an 649 independent credit report from a consumer reporting agency, as 650 described in Section 603(p) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC 651 1681a.
- 652 (2) Not later than April 1, 2010, each mortgage loan originator 653 licensee shall furnish to the system fingerprints for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any governmental agency or 654 655 entity authorized to receive such information for a state, national and international criminal history background check. No later than 656 November 1, 2010, each such licensee shall furnish authorization for 657 the system and the commissioner to obtain an independent credit 658 659 report obtained from a consumer reporting agency described in 660 Section 603(p) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC 1681a.
- Sec. 8. Section 36a-489 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (a) (1) [If the commissioner finds, upon the filing of an application

for a license as a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker, that the applicant meets the requirements of subsection (a) of section 36a-488, and that the financial responsibility, character, reputation, integrity and general fitness of the applicant and of the partners thereof if the applicant is a partnership, of the members if the applicant is a limited liability company or association, and of the officers, directors and principal employees if the applicant is a corporation, are such as to warrant belief that the business will be operated soundly and efficiently, in the public interest and consistent with the purposes of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, and sections 36a-760a to 36a-760h, inclusive, the commissioner may thereupon issue the license. If the commissioner fails to make such findings, or if the commissioner finds that the applicant has made a material misstatement in such application, the commissioner shall not issue a license, and shall notify the applicant of the denial and the reasons for such denial. Any denial of an application by the commissioner shall, when applicable, be subject to the provisions of section 46a-80.] The commissioner shall not issue an initial license for a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker unless the commissioner, at a minimum, finds that: (A) The applicant meets the requirements of subsection (a) of section 36a-488, as amended by this act; (B) the applicant, the control persons of the applicant and the qualified individual or branch manager with supervisory authority at the office for which the license is sought have not been convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, a felony in a domestic, foreign or military court during the seven-year period preceding the date of the application for licensing or at any time preceding the date of application if such felony involved an act of fraud, dishonesty, a breach of trust or money laundering, provided any pardon of a conviction shall not be a conviction for purposes of this subdivision; (C) the applicant demonstrates that the financial responsibility, character and general fitness of the applicant, the control persons of the applicant and the qualified individual or branch manager having supervisory authority over the office for which the license is sought are such as to command the confidence of the

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- 699 community and to warrant a determination that the applicant will 700 operate honestly, fairly and efficiently within the purposes of this chapter; (D) the applicant has met the surety bond requirement under 701 702 section 36a-492, as amended by this act; and (E) the applicant has not 703 made a material misstatement in the application. If the commissioner 704 fails to make such findings, the commissioner shall not issue a license, 705 and shall notify the applicant of the denial and the reasons for such 706 denial.
- 707 (2) (A) The minimum standards for license renewal for a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker shall 708 709 include the following: (i) The applicant continues to meet the minimum standards under subdivision (1) of this subsection; (ii) 710 711 effective April 1, 2010, each qualified person and branch manager has completed the prelicensing education requirement described in section 712 713 9 of this act and passed a written test that meets the test requirement 714 described in section 9 of this act, or has satisfied the annual continuing 715 education requirements described in section (d) of section 9 of this act, 716 as applicable; and (iii) the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent 717 lender or mortgage broker has paid all required fees for renewal of the 718 license.
- (B) The license of a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker failing to satisfy the minimum standards for license renewal shall expire. The commissioner may adopt procedures for the reinstatement of expired licenses consistent with the standards established by the system.
  - (b) (1) [Upon the filing of an application for a mortgage loan originator license, the commissioner shall license the mortgage loan originator named in the application unless the commissioner finds that such applicant or mortgage loan originator has made a material misstatement in the application or that the financial responsibility, character, reputation, integrity and general fitness of such mortgage loan originator are not such as to warrant belief that granting such license would be in the public interest and consistent with the

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purposes of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, and sections 36a-760a to 36a-760h, inclusive. If the commissioner denies an application for a mortgage loan originator license, the commissioner shall notify the applicant and the proposed mortgage loan originator of the denial and the reasons for such denial. Any denial of an application by the commissioner shall, when applicable, be subject to the provisions of section 46a-80.] The commissioner shall not issue an initial license for a mortgage loan originator unless the commissioner, at a minimum, finds that the applicant has: (A) Never had a mortgage loan originator license revoked in any governmental jurisdiction, except that a subsequent formal vacating of such revocation shall not be deemed a revocation; (B) not been convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, a felony in a domestic, foreign or military court during the sevenyear period preceding the date of the application for licensing or at any time preceding such date of application if such felony involved an act of fraud, dishonesty, a breach of trust, or money laundering, provided any pardon of a conviction shall not be a conviction for purposes of this subdivision; (C) demonstrated financial responsibility, character and general fitness so as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly and efficiently within the purpose of this chapter; (D) effective April 1, 2010, completed the prelicensing education requirement described in section 9 of this act and passed a written test that meets the test requirement described in section 9 of this act; (E) effective July 31, 2010, met the surety bond requirement under section 36a-492, as amended by this act; and (F) not made a material misstatement in the application. If the commissioner denies an application for a mortgage loan originator license, the commissioner shall notify the applicant and may notify the sponsor or any other person the commissioner deems appropriate of the denial and the reasons for such denial.

(2) (A) The minimum standards for license renewal for a mortgage loan originator shall include the following: (i) The mortgage loan originator continues to meet the minimum standards for license

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- issuance under subdivision (1) of this subsection; (ii) the mortgage loan
- originator has satisfied the annual continuing education requirements
- described in subsection (d) of section 9 of this act; and (iii) the
- 769 mortgage loan originator has paid all required fees for renewal of the
- 770 license.
- 771 (B) The license of a mortgage loan originator that fails to satisfy the
- 772 minimum standards for license renewal shall expire. The
- 773 commissioner may adopt procedures for the reinstatement of expired
- 774 <u>licenses consistent with the standards established by the system.</u>
- 775 (3) No later than April 1, 2010, each mortgage loan originator
- 776 <u>licensee shall have completed the prelicensing education requirement</u>
- 777 <u>described in section 9 of this act and passed a written test that meets</u>
- 778 the test requirement described in section 9 of this act, provided a
- 779 mortgage loan originator licensee who was licensed as of the
- 780 enactment of this act shall have completed such prelicensing education
- 781 requirement and passed such written test not later than October 31,
- 782 2010.
- 783 (c) For purposes of this section, a person has shown that such
- 784 person is not financially responsible when such person has shown a
- disregard in the management of such person's own financial condition.
- A determination that a person has not shown financial responsibility
- may include, but is not limited to: (1) Current outstanding judgments,
- 788 except judgments solely as a result of medical expenses; (2) current
- 789 <u>outstanding tax liens or other government liens and filings; (3)</u>
- 790 <u>foreclosures during the three years preceding the date of application or</u>
- 791 the date of evaluation for renewal of a license; or (4) a pattern of
- 792 seriously delinquent accounts within the past three years.
- 793 Sec. 9. (NEW) (Effective from passage) (a) (1) In order to meet the
- 794 prelicensing education and testing requirement under section 36a-489
- of the general statutes, as amended by this act, a person shall complete
- 796 at least twenty hours of education approved in accordance with
- 797 subdivision (2) of this subsection, which shall include at least (A) three

- hours of instruction on relevant federal law and regulations; (B) three hours of ethics, including instruction on fraud, consumer protection and fair lending issues; and (C) two hours of training related to lending standards for the nontraditional mortgage product marketplace.
- (2) For purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection, prelicensing education courses shall be reviewed and approved by the system based upon reasonable standards. Review and approval of a prelicensing education course shall include review and approval of the course provider.
- 808 (3) Nothing in this subsection shall preclude any prelicensing 809 education course, as approved by the system, that is provided by the 810 employer of the applicant or an entity which is affiliated with the 811 applicant by an agency contract, or any subsidiary or affiliate of such 812 employer or entity.
- 813 (4) Prelicensing education may be offered either in a classroom, 814 online or by any other means approved by the system.
  - (5) A person who has successfully completed prelicensing education requirements listed in subdivision (1) of this subsection in another state shall be granted credit towards completion of the prelicensing requirements in this state, provided such out-of-state prelicensing education requirements are approved by the system.
  - (6) A person who was licensed under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or under section 36a-534b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, prior to the effective date of this section, and who is applying for a license renewal subsequent to the effective date of this section and the effective dates of prelicensing and testing requirements under section 36a-489 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, must demonstrate that such person has completed all of the continuing education requirements for the year in which the license was last held.

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- (b) (1) In order to meet the written test requirement under section 36a-489 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, an individual shall pass, in accordance with the standards established under this subsection, a qualified written test developed by the system and administered by a test provider approved by the system based upon reasonable standards.
  - (2) A written test shall not be treated as a qualified written test for purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection unless the test adequately measures the applicant's knowledge and comprehension in appropriate subject areas, including ethics, federal law and regulation pertaining to mortgage origination, state law and regulation pertaining to mortgage origination, and federal and state law and regulation, including instruction on fraud, consumer protection, the nontraditional mortgage marketplace and fair lending issues.
  - (3) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit a test provider approved by the system from providing a test at the location of the employer of the applicant, any subsidiary or affiliate of the employer of the applicant or any entity with which the applicant holds an exclusive arrangement to conduct the business of a mortgage loan originator.
  - (4) (A) An individual shall not be considered to have passed a qualified written test unless the individual achieves a test score of not less than seventy-five per cent correct answers to questions.
  - (B) An individual may retake a test three consecutive times with each consecutive taking occurring at least thirty days after the preceding test. After failing three consecutive tests, an individual shall wait at least six months before taking the test again.
  - (c) A licensed mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator who fails to maintain a valid license for a period of five years or longer, not taking into account any time during which such individual is a registered mortgage loan originator, shall retake the test.

- 861 (d) (1) In order to meet the annual continuing education 862 requirements under subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 36a-489 863 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, a licensed mortgage 864 lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage 865 loan originator shall complete at least eight hours of education 866 approved in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection. Such 867 courses shall include at least (A) three hours of instruction on relevant 868 federal law and regulation; (B) two hours of ethics, including 869 instruction on fraud, consumer protection and fair lending issues; and 870 (C) two hours of training related to lending standards for the 871 nontraditional mortgage product marketplace.
  - (2) For purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection, continuing education courses shall be reviewed and approved by the system based upon reasonable standards. Review and approval of a continuing education course shall include review and approval of the course provider.
  - (3) Nothing in this subsection shall preclude any education course approved by the system that is provided by the employer of the licensee or an entity which is affiliated with the licensee by an agency contract, or any subsidiary or affiliate of such employer or entity.
- 881 (4) Continuing education may be offered either in a classroom, 882 online or by any other means approved by the system.
  - (5) A licensee may only receive credit for a continuing education course in the year in which the course is taken, and may not take the same approved course in the same or successive years to meet the annual requirements for continuing education.
  - (6) A licensee who is an instructor of an approved continuing education course may receive credit for the licensee's own annual continuing education requirement at the rate of two hours credit for every one hour taught.
- 891 (7) A person who has successfully completed the education

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- requirements listed in subdivision (1) of this subsection in another state shall be granted credit towards completion of the education requirements in this state, provided such out-of-state education requirements are approved by the system.
- 896 (8) A licensed mortgage loan originator who subsequently becomes 897 unlicensed must complete the continuing education requirements for 898 the last year in which the license was held prior to issuance of an initial 899 or renewed license.
  - (9) A person who meets the requirements of subparagraphs (A)(i) and (A)(iii) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) or (b) of section 36a-489 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, may compensate for any deficiency in continuing education requirements pursuant to regulations adopted by the commissioner.
  - (e) For purposes of this section "nontraditional mortgage product" means any mortgage product other than a thirty-year fixed rate mortgage, and "system" has the same meaning as provided in section 36a-485 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.
- 909 Sec. 10. Section 36a-490 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 911 (a) A mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender and 912 mortgage broker license shall not be transferable or assignable. No 913 licensee may use any name other than its legal name or a fictitious 914 name approved by the commissioner, provided such licensee may not 915 use its legal name if the commissioner disapproves use of such name. 916 Any licensee who intends to permanently cease engaging in the 917 business of making <u>residential</u> mortgage loans or acting as a mortgage 918 broker at any time during a license period for any cause, including, but 919 not limited to, bankruptcy, license revocation or voluntary dissolution, 920 shall file a request to surrender [of] the license for each office at which 921 the licensee intends to cease to do business, on the [Nationwide 922 Mortgage Licensing System] system, not later than fifteen days after 923 the date of such cessation, provided this requirement shall not apply

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when a license has been suspended pursuant to section 36a-51. No surrender shall be effective until accepted by the commissioner.

- (b) A mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker licensee may change the name of the licensee or address of the office specified on the most recent filing with the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System system if (1) at least thirty calendar days prior to such change, the licensee files such change with the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system and provides, directly to the commissioner, a bond rider or endorsement to the surety bond on file with the commissioner that reflects the new name or address of the office, and (2) the commissioner does not disapprove such change, in writing, or request further information within such thirty-day period. The licensee shall promptly file any change in the information most recently submitted in connection with the license with the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system or, if the information cannot be filed on the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system, directly notify the commissioner, in writing, of [any other] such change in the information. [provided in the most recent filing with the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System.]
- (c) The mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker licensee shall promptly file with the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system or, if the information cannot be filed on the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system, directly notify the commissioner, in writing, of the occurrence of any of the following developments:
  - (1) Filing for bankruptcy, or the consummation of a corporate restructuring, of the licensee;
    - (2) Filing of a criminal indictment against the licensee in any way related to the lending or brokerage activities of the licensee, or receiving notification of the filing of any criminal felony indictment or felony conviction of any of the licensee's officers, directors, members, partners or shareholders owning ten per cent or more of the

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- (3) Receiving notification of the institution of license denial, cease and desist, suspension or revocation procedures, or other formal or informal regulatory action by any governmental agency against the licensee and the reasons therefor;
- 961 (4) Receiving notification of the initiation of any action by the 962 Attorney General or the attorney general of any other state and the 963 reasons therefor;
  - (5) Receiving notification of a material adverse action with respect to any existing line of credit or warehouse credit agreement;
- (6) Suspension or termination of the licensee's status as an approved
   seller or servicer by the Federal National Mortgage Association,
   Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation or Government National
   Mortgage Association;
  - (7) Exercise of recourse rights by investors or subsequent assignees of <u>residential</u> mortgage loans if such loans for which the recourse rights are being exercised, in the aggregate, exceed the licensee's net worth exclusive of real property and fixed assets;
    - (8) Receiving notification of filing for bankruptcy of any of the licensee's officers, directors, members, partners or shareholders owning ten per cent or more of the outstanding stock of the licensee; or
    - [(9) Any proposed change in control in the ownership of the licensee, or among the officers, directors, members or partners of the licensee on a form provided by the commissioner. The commissioner may thereupon cause such investigation to be made as he deems necessary, as if the licensee were applying for an initial license. In the case of a corporation, "change in control" means a change of ownership by a person or group acting in concert to acquire ten per cent or more of any class of voting securities, or the ability of a person or group acting in concert to elect a majority of the directors or otherwise effect

- 986 a change in policy of the corporation.]
- 987 (9) A decrease in the net worth required by subsection (a) of section 988 36a-488, as amended by this act.
- (d) Each mortgage loan originator licensee shall promptly file with the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] <u>system</u> or, if the information cannot be filed on the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] <u>system</u>, directly notify the commissioner, in writing, of the occurrence of any of the following developments:
- 994 (1) Filing for bankruptcy of the mortgage loan originator licensee;
- 995 (2) Filing of a criminal indictment against the mortgage loan 996 originator licensee;
- 997 (3) Receiving notification of the institution of license or registration 998 denial, cease and desist, suspension or revocation procedures, or other 999 formal or informal regulatory action by any governmental agency 1000 against the mortgage loan originator licensee and the reasons therefor; 1001 or
  - (4) Receiving notification of the initiation of any action against the mortgage loan originator licensee by the Attorney General or the attorney general of any other state and the reasons therefor.
- (e) Each mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker and mortgage loan originator license shall remain in force and effect until it has been surrendered, revoked, suspended or expires, or is no longer effective, in accordance with the provisions of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 11. Section 36a-491 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 1013 (a) (1) The expiration date of any mortgage lender, mortgage 1014 correspondent lender and mortgage broker license that expires on

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1015 September 30, 2008, shall be extended to the close of business on 1016 December 31, 2008. On and after July 1, 2008, each mortgage lender, 1017 mortgage correspondent lender, [or] mortgage broker and mortgage 1018 originator license shall expire at the close of business on December 1019 thirty-first of the year in which it is approved, unless such license is 1020 renewed, and provided any such license that is approved on or after 1021 November first shall expire at the close of business on December 1022 thirty-first of the year following the year in which it is approved. An 1023 application for renewal of a license shall be filed between November 1024 first and December thirty-first of the year in which the license expires. 1025 [, provided a licensee may file a renewal application not later than 1026 March first of the following year together with a late fee of one 1027 hundred dollars. Any such filing after December thirty-first shall be 1028 deemed timely and sufficient for purposes of subsection (b) of section 1029 4-182.] Each applicant for [a] an initial license or renewal of a license as 1030 a mortgage lender or mortgage correspondent lender shall pay to the 1031 [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system any required fees or 1032 charges and a license fee of eight hundred dollars, and each applicant 1033 for an initial or renewal license as a mortgage broker shall pay to the 1034 [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System] system any required fees or 1035 charges and a license fee of four hundred dollars, provided each 1036 mortgage lender or mortgage correspondent lender licensee who is a licensee on September 30, 2008, who submits a renewal application 1037 1038 shall, at the time of making such application, pay to the [Nationwide 1039 Mortgage Licensing System] system any required fees or charges and a 1040 license fee of nine hundred dollars and each mortgage broker who was 1041 a licensee on June 30, 2008, who submits a renewal application shall, at 1042 the time of making such application, pay to the [Nationwide Mortgage 1043 Licensing System] system any required fees or charges and a license 1044 fee of four hundred fifty dollars.

(2) [Each mortgage loan originator license shall expire at such time as the license of the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker that employs or retains the mortgage loan originator expires, unless such mortgage loan originator license is

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1049 renewed. Each mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or 1050 mortgage broker applicant and each mortgage lender licensee, 1051 mortgage correspondent lender licensee or mortgage broker licensee 1052 that files an application] Effective November 1, 2009, each applicant for 1053 [a] an initial license or renewal of a license as a mortgage loan 1054 originator [license] shall pay to the [Nationwide Mortgage Licensing 1055 System system any required fees or charges and a license fee of [one] 1056 three hundred dollars. [for each mortgage loan originator, provided 1057 each mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage 1058 broker who is a licensee on September 30, 2008, who submits a renewal 1059 application for a mortgage loan originator shall, at the time of making 1060 such application, pay to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System 1061 any required fees or charges and a license fee of one hundred twenty-1062 five dollars. On and after January 1, 2010, each mortgage lender, 1063 mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker filing an 1064 application for a mortgage loan originator license shall pay a license 1065 fee of one hundred dollars for each mortgage loan originator and any 1066 required fees or charges to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing 1067 System.]

- (b) All fees paid pursuant to this section, including fees paid in connection with an application that is denied or withdrawn prior to the issuance of the license, shall be nonrefundable, provided [such fees] any license fee paid by an originator for a license that is not sponsored by a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker may be refundable. No fee paid pursuant to this section shall be prorated if the license is surrendered, revoked or suspended prior to the expiration of the period for which it was approved.
- Sec. 12. Section 36a-492 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (a) (1) No mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker license, and no renewal thereof, shall be granted unless the applicant has filed a bond with the commissioner written by

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1082 a surety authorized to write such bonds in this state, in the sum of 1083 forty thousand dollars, the form of which shall be approved by the 1084 Attorney General. [, provided on and after August 1, 2009, the bond 1085 shall be in the sum of eighty thousand dollars. Such bond shall be 1086 conditioned upon such licensee faithfully performing any and all 1087 written agreements or commitments with or for the benefit of 1088 borrowers and prospective borrowers, truly and faithfully accounting 1089 for all funds received from a borrower or prospective borrower by the 1090 licensee in the licensee's capacity as a mortgage lender, mortgage 1091 correspondent lender or a mortgage broker, and conducting such 1092 mortgage business consistent with the provisions of sections 36a-485 to 1093 36a-498a, inclusive. Any borrower or prospective borrower who may 1094 be damaged by failure to perform any written agreements or 1095 commitments, or by the wrongful conversion of funds paid by a 1096 borrower or prospective borrower to a licensee, may proceed on such 1097 bond against the principal or surety thereon, or both, to recover 1098 damages. Commencing August 1, 2009, any borrower or prospective 1099 borrower who may be damaged by a licensee's failure to satisfy a 1100 judgment against the licensee arising from the making or brokering of 1101 a nonprime home loan, as defined in section 36a-760, may proceed on 1102 such bond against the principal or surety thereon, or both, to recover 1103 the amount of the judgment. The commissioner may proceed on such 1104 bond against the principal or surety thereon, or both, to collect any 1105 civil penalty imposed upon the licensee pursuant to subsection (a) of 1106 section 36a-50 and any unpaid costs of examination of the licensee as 1107 determined pursuant to section 36a-65. The proceeds of the bond, even 1108 if commingled with other assets of the licensee, shall be deemed by 1109 operation of law to be held in trust for the benefit of such claimants 1110 against the licensee in the event of bankruptcy of the licensee and shall 1111 be immune from attachment by creditors and judgment creditors. The 1112 bond shall run concurrently with the period of the license granted to 1113 the applicant, and the aggregate liability under the bond shall not exceed the penal sum of the bond.] Effective July 31, 2010, the penal 1114 1115 sum of the bond shall be maintained in an amount that reflects the 1116 dollar amount of the loans originated by the mortgage lender,

- 1117 mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker, as determined by 1118 the commissioner.
- 1119 (2) Effective July 31, 2010, each person licensed as a mortgage loan 1120 originator shall be covered by a surety bond in accordance with this section, provided such coverage shall be provided through the bond of 1121 1122 the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage 1123 broker who sponsors such mortgage loan originator. The penal sum of 1124 the bond shall be maintained in an amount that reflects the dollar 1125 amount of loans originated by the mortgage loan originator, as determined by the commissioner. The commissioner may adopt 1126 1127 regulations in accordance with chapter 54 with respect to the 1128 requirements for such surety bonds.
  - (b) The bond required by subsection (a) of this section shall be conditioned upon such licensee faithfully performing any and all written agreements or commitments with or for the benefit of borrowers and prospective borrowers, truly and faithfully accounting for all funds received from a borrower or prospective borrower by the licensee in the licensee's capacity as a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or a mortgage broker or, effective July 31, 2010, a mortgage loan originator, and conducting such mortgage business consistent with the provisions of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b. Any borrower or prospective borrower who may be damaged by failure to perform any written agreements or commitments, or by the wrongful conversion of funds paid by a borrower or prospective borrower to a licensee, may proceed on such bond against the principal or surety thereon, or both, to recover damages. Commencing August 1, 2009, any borrower or prospective borrower who may be damaged by a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator licensee's failure to satisfy a judgment against the licensee arising from the making or brokering of a nonprime home loan, as defined in section 36a-760, may proceed on such bond against the principal or surety thereon, or both, to recover the amount of the judgment. The commissioner may

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- 1151 proceed on such bond against the principal or surety thereon, or both, 1152 to collect any civil penalty imposed upon the licensee pursuant to subsection (a) of section 36a-50 and any unpaid costs of examination of 1153 1154 the licensee as determined pursuant to section 36a-65. The proceeds of 1155 the bond, even if commingled with other assets of the licensee, shall be 1156 deemed by operation of law to be held in trust for the benefit of such 1157 claimants against the licensee in the event of bankruptcy of the licensee 1158 and shall be immune from attachment by creditors and judgment 1159 creditors. The bond shall run concurrently with the period of the 1160 license granted to the applicant, and the aggregate liability under the 1161 bond shall not exceed the penal sum of the bond. The licensee shall 1162 notify the commissioner of the commencement of an action on the 1163 licensee's bond. When an action is commenced on a licensee's bond, the commissioner may require the filing of a new bond and 1164 1165 immediately on recovery on any action on the bond, the licensee shall 1166 file a new bond.
- [(b)] (c) The surety company shall have the right to cancel the bond at any time by a written notice to the licensee stating the date cancellation shall take effect. Such notice shall be sent by certified mail to the licensee at least thirty days prior to the date of cancellation. A surety bond shall not be cancelled unless the surety company notifies the commissioner in writing not less than thirty days prior to the effective date of cancellation.
- Sec. 13. Subsection (a) of section 36a-493 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (a) Each mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender and mortgage broker licensee shall maintain adequate records of each residential mortgage loan transaction at the office named in the license, or, if requested by the commissioner, shall make such records available at such office or send such records to the commissioner by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or by any express delivery carrier that provides a dated delivery receipt, not later than five

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business days after requested by the commissioner to do so. Upon request, the commissioner may grant a licensee additional time to make such records available or send them to the commissioner. Such records shall provide the following information: (1) A copy of any disclosures required under part III of chapter 669; (2) whether the licensee acted as a mortgage lender, a mortgage correspondent lender, a mortgage broker, a mortgage lender and a mortgage broker, or a mortgage correspondent lender and a mortgage broker; (3) if the licensee is acting as a mortgage lender or mortgage correspondent lender, and retains the residential mortgage loan or receives payments thereon, an adequate loan history for those loans retained or upon which payments are received, itemizing the amount and date of each payment and the unpaid balance at all times; (4) the purpose for which the loan was made; (5) the original or an exact copy of the note, loan agreement or other evidence of indebtedness and mortgage deed; (6) a statement signed by the borrower acknowledging the receipt of such statement which discloses the full amount of any fee, commission or consideration paid to the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender and mortgage broker for all services in connection with the origination and settlement of the residential mortgage loan; (7) the name and address of the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender and the mortgage broker, if any, involved in the loan transaction; (8) a copy of the initial and a copy of the final residential mortgage loan application taken from the borrower; and (9) a copy of all information used in evaluating the application.

Sec. 14. Section 36a-494 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) The commissioner may suspend, revoke or refuse to renew any mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker license or take any other action, in accordance with the provisions of section 36a-51, for any reason which would be sufficient grounds for the commissioner to deny an application for such license under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, or if the commissioner finds that the licensee, [or any proprietor,

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director, officer, member, partner, shareholder] any control person, the qualified individual or branch manager with supervisory authority, trustee, employee or agent of such licensee has done any of the following: (A) Made any material misstatement in the application; (B) committed any fraud, misappropriated funds or misrepresented, concealed, suppressed, intentionally omitted or otherwise intentionally failed to disclose any of the material particulars of any residential mortgage loan transaction, including disclosures required by subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 36a-493, as amended by this act, or part III of chapter 669 or regulations adopted pursuant thereto, to anyone entitled to such information; (C) violated any of the provisions of this title or of any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, or any other law or regulation applicable to the conduct of its business; or (D) failed to perform any agreement with a licensee or a borrower.

- (2) The commissioner may suspend, revoke or refuse to renew any mortgage loan originator license or take any other action, in accordance with the provisions of section 36a-51, for any reason which would be sufficient grounds for the commissioner to deny an application for such license under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, or if the commissioner finds that the licensee has committed any fraud, misappropriated funds, misrepresented, concealed, suppressed, intentionally omitted or otherwise intentionally failed to disclose any of the material particulars of any residential mortgage loan transaction or has violated any of the provisions of this title or of any regulations adopted pursuant to such licensee's business.
- (b) Whenever it appears to the commissioner that any person has violated, is violating or is about to violate any of the provisions of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto, or any licensee has failed to perform any agreement with a borrower, committed any fraud, misappropriated funds or misrepresented, concealed, suppressed, intentionally omitted or otherwise intentionally failed to disclose any

of the material particulars of any <u>residential</u> mortgage loan transaction, including disclosures required by subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 36a-493, <u>as amended by this act</u>, or part III of chapter 669 or regulations adopted pursuant thereto, to anyone entitled to such information, the commissioner may take action against such person or licensee in accordance with sections 36a-50 and 36a-52.

(c) (1) Whenever the commissioner finds as the result of an investigation that any person conducting business under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act: (A) Has violated said sections or any regulation or order issued thereunder; (B) has been convicted of a felony that would preclude licensing under said sections; or (C) no longer demonstrates the financial responsibility, character and general fitness to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the person subject to said sections will operate honestly, fairly and efficiently, the commissioner may send notice to such person by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or by any express delivery carrier that provides a dated delivery receipt. The notice shall be deemed received by such person on the earlier of the date of actual receipt or seven days after mailing or sending. Any such notice shall include: (i) A statement of the time, place and nature of the hearing; (ii) a statement of the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing is to be held; (iii) a reference to the particular sections of the general statutes, regulations or orders alleged to have been violated; (iv) a short and plain statement of the matters asserted; and (v) a statement indicating that such person may file a written request for a hearing on the matters asserted not later than fourteen days after receipt of the notice. If the commissioner finds that the protection of borrowers requires immediate action, the commissioner may suspend any such person from office and require such person to take or refrain from taking such action as in the opinion of the commissioner will effectuate the purposes of this subsection, by incorporating a finding to that effect in such notice. The suspension or prohibition shall become effective upon receipt of such notice and, unless stayed by a court, shall remain in

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- effect until the entry of a permanent order or the dismissal of the matters asserted.
- 1288 (2) If a hearing is requested within the time specified in the notice, 1289 the commissioner shall hold a hearing upon the matters asserted in the 1290 notice unless such person fails to appear at the hearing. After the 1291 hearing, if the commissioner finds that any of the grounds set forth in 1292 subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of subdivision (1) of this 1293 subsection exist with respect to such person, the commissioner may 1294 order the removal of such person from office and from any 1295 employment in the mortgage business in this state. If such person fails 1296 to appear at the hearing, the commissioner may order the removal of 1297 such person from office and from employment in the mortgage 1298 business in this state.
- (d) The commissioner may issue a temporary order to cease 1299 business under a license if the commissioner determines that such 1300 1301 license was issued erroneously. The commissioner shall give the 1302 licensee an opportunity for a hearing on such action in accordance 1303 with section 36a-52. Such temporary order shall become effective upon 1304 receipt by the licensee and, unless set aside or modified by a court, 1305 shall remain in effect until the effective date of a permanent order or 1306 dismissal of the matters asserted in the notice.
- Sec. 15. Section 36a-496 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - No person engaged in the business of making <u>residential</u> mortgage loans in this state, whether licensed in accordance with the provisions of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, <u>as amended by this act</u>, or exempt from licensing, shall accept applications or referral of applicants from, or pay a fee to, any mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator who is required to be licensed under said sections but was not, as of the time of the performance of such mortgage broker's or mortgage loan originator's services in connection with loans made or to be made by the mortgage lender or mortgage correspondent lender,

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- licensed to act as such by the commissioner, if the mortgage lender or
- 1319 mortgage correspondent lender has actual knowledge that the
- mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator was not licensed by the
- 1321 commissioner.
- Sec. 16. Section 36a-497 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- No mortgage lender licensee, mortgage correspondent lender
- licensee or mortgage broker licensee shall:
- 1326 (1) Advertise or cause to be advertised in this state, any <u>residential</u>
- mortgage loan in which such person intends to act only as a mortgage
- 1328 broker unless the advertisement includes the following statement,
- 1329 clearly and conspicuously expressed: MORTGAGE BROKER ONLY,
- 1330 NOT A MORTGAGE LENDER OR MORTGAGE CORRESPONDENT
- 1331 LENDER; or
- 1332 (2) In connection with an advertisement in this state, use (A) a
- simulated check; (B) a comparison between the loan payments under
- the residential mortgage loan offered and the loan payments under a
- 1335 hypothetical loan or extension of credit, unless the advertisement
- includes, with respect to both the hypothetical loan or extension of
- credit and the <u>residential</u> mortgage loan being offered, the interest rate,
- the loan balance, the total amount of finance charges, the total number
- of payments and the monthly payment amount that would be required
- to pay off the outstanding loan balance shown; (C) representations
- such as "verified as eligible", "eligible", "preapproved", "prequalified"
- or similar words or phrases, without also disclosing, in immediate
- 1343 proximity to and in similar size print, language which sets forth
- prerequisites to qualify for the <u>residential</u> mortgage loan, including,
- but not limited to, income verification, credit check, and property
- 1346 appraisal or evaluation; or (D) any words or symbols in the
- 1347 advertisement or on the envelope containing the advertisement that
- 1348 give the appearance that the mailing was sent by a government
- 1349 agency.

- Sec. 17. Subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of section 36a-498 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, every advance fee paid or given, directly or indirectly, to a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker required to be licensed pursuant to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall be refundable.
  - (b) No mortgage loan originator required to be licensed pursuant to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall accept payment of any advance fee except an advance fee on behalf of a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker licensee. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as prohibiting the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker licensee from paying a mortgage loan originator all or part of an advance fee, provided such advance fee paid is not refundable under this section.
  - (c) Subsection (a) of this section shall not apply if: (1) The person providing the advance fee and the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker agree in writing that the advance fee shall not be refundable, in whole or in part; and (2) the written agreement complies in all respects with the provisions of subsection (d) of this section.
  - (d) An agreement under subsection (c) of this section shall meet all of the following requirements to be valid and enforceable: (1) The agreement shall be dated, signed by both parties, and be executed prior to the payment of any advance fee; (2) the agreement shall expressly state the total advance fee required to be paid and any amount of the advance fee that shall not be refundable; (3) the agreement shall clearly and conspicuously state any conditions under which the advance fee will be retained by the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker; (4) the term

- "nonrefundable" shall be used to describe each advance fee or portion thereof to which the term is applicable, and shall appear in boldface type in the agreement each time it is used; and (5) the form of the agreement shall (A) be separate from any other forms, contracts, or applications utilized by the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker, (B) contain a heading in a size equal to at least ten-point boldface type that shall title the form "AGREEMENT CONCERNING NONREFUNDABILITY OF ADVANCE FEE", (C) provide for a duplicate copy which shall be given to the person paying the advance fee at the time of payment of the advance fee, and (D) include such other specifications as the commissioner may by regulation prescribe.
  - (e) An agreement under subsection (c) of this section that does not meet the requirements of subsection (d) of this section shall be voidable at the election of the person paying the advance fee.
  - (f) (1) No mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker required to be licensed pursuant to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, <u>as amended by this act</u>, shall enter into an agreement with or otherwise require any person to pay the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker for any fee, commission or other valuable consideration lost as a result of such person failing to consummate a <u>residential</u> mortgage loan, provided the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker may collect such fee, commission or consideration as an advance fee subject to the requirements of this section.
  - (2) No mortgage broker required to be licensed pursuant to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, <u>as amended by this act</u>, shall enter into an agreement with or otherwise require any person to pay the mortgage broker any fee, commission or other valuable consideration for the prepayment of the principal of a <u>residential</u> mortgage loan by such person before the date on which the principal is due.
    - (g) (1) For the purposes of this subsection:

- (A) "Unfair or deceptive act or practice" means (i) the failure to clearly and conspicuously state in the initial phase of the solicitation that the solicitor is not affiliated with the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker with which the consumer initially applied, (ii) the failure to clearly and conspicuously state in the initial phase of the solicitation that the solicitation is based on personal information about the consumer that was purchased, directly or indirectly, from a consumer reporting agency without the knowledge or permission of the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker with which the consumer initially applied, (iii) the failure in the initial solicitation to comply with the provisions of the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act relating to prescreening solicitations that use consumer reports, including the requirement to make a firm offer of credit to the consumer, or (iv) knowingly or negligently using information from a mortgage trigger lead (I) to solicit consumers who have opted out of prescreened offers of credit under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, or (II) to place telephone calls to consumers who have placed their contact information on a federal or state Do Not Call list; and
- (B) "Mortgage trigger lead" means a consumer report obtained pursuant to Section 604 (c)(1)(B) of the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC 1681b, where the issuance of the report is triggered by an inquiry made with a consumer reporting agency in response to an application for credit. "Mortgage trigger lead" does not include a consumer report obtained by a mortgage lender or mortgage correspondent lender that holds or services existing indebtedness of the applicant who is the subject of the report.
- (2) No mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator shall engage in an unfair or deceptive act or practice in soliciting an application for a <u>residential</u> mortgage loan when such solicitation is based, in whole or in part, on information contained in a mortgage trigger lead. Any violation of this subsection shall be deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-110b.

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Sec. 18. Section 36a-555 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

No person shall engage in the business of making loans of money or credit in the amount or to the value of fifteen thousand dollars or less for loans made under section 36a-563 or section 36a-565, and charge, contract for or receive a greater rate of interest, charge or consideration than twelve per cent per annum therefor, unless licensed to do so by the commissioner pursuant to sections 36a-555 to 36a-573, inclusive, as amended by this act. The provisions of this section shall not apply to (1) a bank, (2) an out-of-state bank, (3) a Connecticut credit union, (4) a federal credit union, (5) an out-of-state credit union, (6) a savings and loan association wholly owned subsidiary service corporation, (7) a person to the extent that such person makes loans for agricultural, commercial, industrial or governmental use or extends credit through an open-end credit plan, as defined in subdivision (8) of subsection (a) of section 36a-676, for the retail purchase of consumer goods or services, (8) a mortgage lender or mortgage correspondent lender licensed pursuant to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, as amended by this act, when making [first] residential mortgage loans, as defined in section 36a-485, as amended by this act, or (9) a licensed pawnbroker.

- Sec. 19. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) In addition to any authority provided under title 36a of the general statutes, the Banking Commissioner shall have the authority to conduct investigations and examinations as follows:
- (1) For purposes of initial licensing, license renewal, license suspension, license conditioning, license revocation or termination, or general or specific inquiry or investigation to determine compliance with sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b of the general statutes, the commissioner may access, receive and use any books, accounts, records, files, documents, information or evidence including, but not limited to: (A) Criminal, civil and administrative history

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- information; (B) personal history and experience information including independent credit reports obtained from a consumer reporting agency described in Section 603(p) of the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC 1681a; and (C) any other documents, information or evidence the commissioner deems relevant to the inquiry or investigation regardless of the location, possession, control or custody of such documents, information or evidence.
  - (2) For the purposes of investigating violations or complaints arising under sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or section 36a-534a or 36a-534b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or for the purposes of examination, the commissioner may review, investigate or examine any mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker and mortgage loan originator subject to said sections as often as necessary in order to carry out the purposes of said sections. The commissioner may direct, subpoena or order the attendance of and examine under oath all persons whose testimony may be required about the loans or the business or subject matter of any such examination or investigation, and may direct, subpoena or order such person to produce books, accounts, records, files and any other documents the commissioner deems relevant to the inquiry.
  - (b) Each mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker and mortgage loan originator subject to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall make or compile reports or prepare other information as directed by the commissioner in order to carry out the purposes of this section including accounting compilations, information lists and data concerning loan transactions in a format prescribed by the commissioner or such other information the commissioner deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.
    - (c) In making any examination or investigation authorized by this

1514 section, the commissioner may control access to any documents and 1515 records of the licensee or person under examination or investigation. 1516 The commissioner may take possession of the documents and records 1517 or place a person in exclusive charge of the documents and records in 1518 the place where they are usually kept. During the period of control, no 1519 individual or person shall remove or attempt to remove any of the 1520 documents and records except pursuant to a court order or with the 1521 consent of the commissioner. Unless the commissioner has reasonable 1522 grounds to believe the documents or records of the licensee have been, 1523 or are at risk of being, altered or destroyed for purposes of concealing 1524 a violation of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general 1525 statutes, as amended by this act, or section 36a-534a or 36a-534b of the 1526 general statutes, as amended by this act, or section 20 of this act, the 1527 licensee or owner of the documents and records shall have access to 1528 the documents or records as necessary to conduct its ordinary business 1529 affairs.

- (d) In order to carry out the purposes of this section, the commissioner may:
- (1) Retain attorneys, accountants or other professionals and specialists as examiners, auditors or investigators to conduct or assist in the conduct of examinations or investigations;
- (2) Enter into agreements or relationships with other government officials or regulatory associations in order to improve efficiencies and reduce regulatory burden by sharing resources, standardized or uniform methods or procedures, and documents, records, information or evidence obtained under this section;
  - (3) Use, hire, contract or employ public or privately available analytical systems, methods or software to examine or investigate the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator subject to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

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- 1546 (4) Accept and rely on examination or investigation reports made by 1547 other government officials, within or without this state;
  - (5) Accept audit reports made by an independent certified public accountant for the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator subject to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, in the course of that part of the examination covering the same general subject matter as the audit and may incorporate the audit report in the report of the examination, report of investigation or other writing of the commissioner; or
    - (6) Assess the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator subject to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the cost of the services in subsection (a) of this section.
    - (e) The authority of this section shall remain in effect, whether such a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator subject to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, acts or claims to act under any licensing or registration law of this state, or claims to act without such authority.
    - (f) No licensee, individual or person subject to investigation or examination under this section may knowingly withhold, abstract, remove, mutilate, destroy or secrete any books, records, computer records or other information.
- Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) No person or individual subject to sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and sections 36a-534a and 36a-534b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, may:

- 1578 (1) Directly or indirectly employ any scheme, device or artifice to 1579 defraud or mislead borrowers or lenders or to defraud any person;
- 1580 (2) Engage in any unfair or deceptive practice toward any person;
- 1581 (3) Obtain property by fraud or misrepresentation;
- (4) Solicit or enter into a contract with a borrower that provides in substance that such person or individual may earn a fee or commission through "best efforts" to obtain a loan even though no loan is actually obtained for the borrower;
  - (5) Solicit, advertise or enter into a contract for specific interest rates, points or other financing terms unless the terms are actually available at the time of soliciting, advertising or contracting;
- 1589 (6) Conduct any business as a mortgage lender, mortgage 1590 correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage loan originator 1591 without holding a valid license as required under sections 36a-485 to 1592 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 1593 assist or aide and abet any person in the conduct of business as a 1594 mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or 1595 mortgage loan originator without a valid license as required under 1596 sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as 1597 amended by this act;
  - (7) Fail to make disclosures as required by sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and any other applicable state or federal law including regulations thereunder;
  - (8) Fail to comply with sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or rules or regulations adopted under said sections or fail to comply with any other state or federal law, including the rules and regulations thereunder, applicable to any business authorized or conducted under said sections;
- 1606 (9) Make, in any manner, any false or deceptive statement or 1607 representation including, with regard to the rates, points or other

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- financing terms or conditions for a residential mortgage loan, or engage in bait and switch advertising;
- (10) Negligently make any false statement or knowingly and wilfully make any omission of material fact in connection with any information or reports filed with a governmental agency or the system, as defined in section 36a-485 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or in connection with any investigation conducted by the Banking Commissioner or another governmental agency;
  - (11) Make any payment, threat or promise, directly or indirectly, to any person for the purposes of influencing the independent judgment of the person in connection with a residential mortgage loan, or make any payment threat or promise, directly or indirectly, to any appraiser of a property, for the purposes of influencing the independent judgment of the appraiser with respect to the value of the property;
- 1622 (12) Collect, charge, attempt to collect or charge or use or propose 1623 any agreement purporting to collect or charge any fee prohibited by 1624 sections 36a-485 to 36a-498a, inclusive, of the general statutes, as 1625 amended by this act;
- 1626 (13) Cause or require a borrower to obtain property insurance 1627 coverage in an amount that exceeds the replacement cost of the 1628 improvements as established by the property insurer; or
- 1629 (14) Fail to truthfully account for monies belonging to a party to a residential mortgage loan transaction.
- Sec. 21. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The "unique identifier", as defined in section 36a-485 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, of any person originating a residential mortgage loan shall be clearly shown on all residential mortgage loan application forms, solicitations or advertisements, including business cards or web sites, and any other documents as established by rule, regulation or order of the Banking Commissioner.

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Sec. 22. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) If any provision or application of sections 36a-21 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 36a-485 to 36a-494, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 36a-496 to 36a-498, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 36a-498c of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 36a-534b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 36a-555 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 36a-555 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and sections 9 and 19 to 21, inclusive, of this act to any person or circumstance is held invalid by a court of this state, the remainder of said sections or the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Sec. 23. Subsection (a) of section 36a-498a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

(a) No mortgage lender licensee or mortgage correspondent lender licensee under section 36a-489 and no person exempt from licensure under [subdivisions (1), (2), (5) and (6)] <u>subsection (a) and subdivisions</u> (1), (4) and (5) of subsection (b) of section 36a-487, as amended by this act, making a first mortgage loan may charge, impose or cause to be paid, directly or indirectly, prepaid finance charges that exceed in the aggregate, the greater of five per cent of the principal amount of the loan or two thousand dollars. If the proceeds of the loan are used to refinance an existing loan, the aggregate of the prepaid finance charges for the current refinancing and any previous financings by such licensee or exempt person or affiliate of such licensee or exempt person within two years of the current refinancing shall not exceed the greater of five per cent of the principal amount of the initial loan or two thousand dollars. The provisions of this section shall not prohibit such licensee or exempt person from charging, imposing or causing to be paid, directly or indirectly, prepaid finance charges in addition to those permitted by this section in connection with any additional proceeds received by the borrower in the refinancing, provided such prepaid finance charges on the additional proceeds shall not exceed five per cent of the additional proceeds.

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This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	36a-21
Sec. 2	from passage	36a-485
Sec. 3	from passage	36a-534b
Sec. 4	from passage	36a-498c
Sec. 5	from passage	36a-486
Sec. 6	from passage	36a-487
Sec. 7	from passage	36a-488
Sec. 8	from passage	36a-489
Sec. 9	from passage	New section
Sec. 10	from passage	36a-490
Sec. 11	from passage	36a-491
Sec. 12	from passage	36a-492
Sec. 13	from passage	36a-493(a)
Sec. 14	from passage	36a-494
Sec. 15	from passage	36a-496
Sec. 16	from passage	36a-497
Sec. 17	from passage	36a-498(a) to (g)
Sec. 18	from passage	36a-555
Sec. 19	from passage	New section
Sec. 20	from passage	New section
Sec. 21	from passage	New section
Sec. 22	from passage	New section
Sec. 23	October 1, 2009	36a-498a(a)

## **BA** Joint Favorable Subst.